News release

16 March 2007

Snow and ice forecast for early next week - update

A marked change to very cold weather for later this weekend is still forecast by the Met Office. Strong Arctic winds will bring a sharp drop in temperature and a risk of snow and ice to some areas of the UK into next week.

The snow is most likely to affect northern and exposed western and eastern parts of the UK, with up to 3 cm possible at low levels. Upland areas could see up to 15 cm of snow, especially at night-time. Typical daytime temperatures in the south will be 7 °C by Monday, with around 4 °C in the north, with widespread sharp frosts by night.

Bob Wilderspin, Chief Forecaster at the Met Office, said: "Exposed places in the north and west will see the heaviest snow showers at first, with eastern areas becoming more at risk by Wednesday. Overnight, ice will be an additional hazard in the affected areas."

Many central and inland areas will avoid the worst of the snow showers, with overnight frosts being the main feature of the weather here. The cold snap is expected to last into the middle part of next week, before temperatures start to recover later in the week.

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